

**CHAPTER NO. 66**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2031**

**By Representatives Hood, Rowland, Beavers**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1994**

**By Senator Trail**

AN ACT to amend Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983; as amended by Chapter 23 of the Private Acts of 1999; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the regulation of dogs and cats in Rutherford County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983, as amended by Chapter 23 of the Private Acts of 1999, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended in Section 3 by deleting the language "appointed by the Board of the Humane Rabies Animal Control," from subsection (c).

SECTION 2. Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983, as amended, is further amended by deleting the following language from Section 4:

Such tags are to be supplied by the Board of Humane/Rabies Animal Control, to be made available in its budget by the county commission, out of the revenue of the Humane/Rabies Animal Control Fund.

and by substituting instead the following language:

Such tags are to be supplied by the Animal Services Department, to be made available in its budget by the county commission, out of the revenue of the Animal Services budget.

SECTION 3. Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983, as amended, is further amended in Section 7 by deleting from subsection (c) the language "Board of Humane/Rabies Animal Control" and by substituting instead the language "Animal Services Department".

SECTION 4. Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983, as amended, is further amended by deleting Section 11 in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 11. If any dog or cat has bitten any person or is suspected of being infected of rabies, the Department may cause such dog or cat to be confined or isolated at a veterinary hospital or the animal services facility for such time as the health department deems it necessary to protect the safety of the people and/or property. The health department shall be notified by a representative of the Department of such incident.

SECTION 5. Chapter 55 of the Private Acts of 1983, as amended, is further amended by deleting Section 16 in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 16. It shall be the duty of the Department of Animal Services to enforce the provisions of this act and to adopt reasonable rules, regulations and procedures to enforce and carry out the purposes of this act, and the

Department shall have the authority to employ or appoint all necessary personnel as may be authorized by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Department of Animal Services shall be under the direct supervision, control and administration of the County Executive as a department organized and managed by the County Executive. The County Executive shall have full authority over the department including the authority to hire and fire the Director of the department. The Director of the department shall be in charge of the day to day administration of the department including personnel matters subject to the supervision of the County Executive.

Where the word "Department" appears in this act, it shall refer specifically to the Department of Animal Services as herein set forth.

SECTION 6. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Rutherford County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body and certified to the secretary of state.

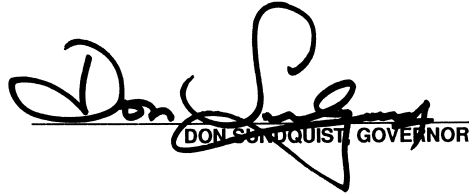
SECTION 7. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 6.

**PASSED: June 25, 2001**

  
JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

**APPROVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 2001**

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR